

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 15 and 16 are amended and claims 24 and 25 added. Thus, claims 1-12, 15-18 and 20-25 are pending upon entry of this amendment.

In the Office Action, claims 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101; and claims 1, 2, 4-12, 15-18 and 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Hughes in view of Dustless.com.

Independent claims 1 and 8 each recite scheduling a service to change a replacement filter on the filter replacement date, wherein the scheduling includes “automatically contacting a third party service company on behalf of the customer.” In contrast, a combination of Hughes and Dustless.com, which discloses sending a reminder letter to a consumer, fails to disclose “automatically contacting a third party service company on behalf of the customer,” as recited in claims 1 and 8. Accordingly, claims 1 and 8 should be allowed. Dependent claims 2, 4-7, 9-12, 15-18 and 20-25 should be allowed as well, at least in view of their dependence from allowable claims 1 and 8, respectively. Further consideration for the allowance of dependent claims 4, 5, 15 and 16 is provided below.

Claims 4 and 15 recite “storing filter replacement history,” and claims 5 and 16 recite considering the “filter replacement history and a time of year” in computing the filter replacement date. A combination of Hughes and Dustless.com fails to disclose these recitations. Accordingly, at least for these additional reasons, claims 4, 5, 15 and 16 are allowable.

Regarding the rejection of the claims 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. §101, this rejection should be deemed moot in view of the amendment to independent claim 8. Notably, the process includes technology for "automatically contacting a third party service company on behalf of the customer."

In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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